

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 03508 160454Z

13

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00

SCEM-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 IGA-02

AID-20 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /114 W

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R 160430Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4669

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 3508

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, SA

SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE WISHES BUY RICE, WHEAT FLOUR  
AND WHEAT GRAIN

REF: A. JIDDA 898; B. STATE 41265

1. MINISTER OF COMMERCE AL-AWADI YESTERDAY ASKED EMBASSY TO INQUIRE ABOUT POSSIBILITY SAG PURCHASING LARGE QUANTITIES RICE, WHEAT FLOUR AND WHEAT GRAIN OVER PERIOD OF NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. QUANTITIES ESTIMATED AT 100-150 THOUSAND TONS PER YEAR, WHICH MIGHT INCREASE IN THREE YEARS WHEN GRAIN-STORAGE SILOS NOW PLANNED ARE COMPLETED. SAG WOULD WISH PURCHASE RESERVE STOCKS FROM US AT THAT TIME.

2. MINISTER STATED THAT GRAIN SPECULATORS HAVE DRIVEN PRICE UP TO ARTIFICIALLY HIGH LEVELS AND AS RESULT SAUDI MERCHANTS ARE FORESAKING THEIR TRADITIONAL US SOURCES OF SUPPLY AND GOING ELSEWHERE. SAG PREFERS SEE TRADERS CONTINUE PURCHASE FROM US AND MINISTRY HAS DECIDED MAKE PURCHASES ITSELF FOR RESALE TO LOCAL MERCHANTS IN ORDER INSURE CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICAN SOURCES AND GOOD PRICE TO LOCAL VENDORS. MINISTER AWARE THAT SINCE FALL CROPS NOT IN, SEASONAL PRICES LIKELY BE HIGHER THAN  
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USUAL. INITIALLY HE WOULD LIKE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY

INFO ON 20,000 TONS EACH OF ABOVE THREE COMMODITIES.  
MINISTER CONDLUED HIS APPEAL BY SAYING QUOTE THE UNITED  
STATES NEEDS OIL AND WE SELL IT. SAUDI ARABIA NEEDS  
GRAIN AND WE HOPE THAT US, TOO, WILL SELL IT END QUOTE.

3. HOPE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE US FAVORABLE BASIS FOR RESPONSE.  
THACHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973JIDDA03508  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** JIDDA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730834/aaaaayzs.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AGR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. JIDDA 898; B. STATE 41265  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <23-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTRY OF COMMERCE WISHES BUY RICE, WHEAT FLOUR AND WHEAT GRAIN  
**TAGS:** EAGR, SA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005